

MARVEL

2

LGY#007

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THE X-CELLENT



PARENTAL
ADVISORY

They lived, they loved, they fought and they died...a lot. The mutant team known as X-STATIX rose to celebrity acclaim by showcasing their death-defying missions to the adoring public. But after many missions (and many replacement teammates), the team disbanded, never to be heard from again.

That is, until the daughter of former member U-GO GIRL, Katie Jones, manifested teleportation abilities that attracted not just the survivors of X-Statix, but also a new team of young, eccentric mutants called...

THE X-CELLENT

PREVIOUSLY...

Zeitgeist, the deceased leader of X-Force (now known as the X-Statix), is back! And this time, he's brought with him a team of conniving, cutthroat mutants eager to steal the celebrity spotlight from the X-Statix!

Most recently, the X-Cellent stole a spell from Doctor Strange's *Book of the Vishanti*. With this spell and the use of his social media, Zeitgeist plans to achieve godhood! But Zeitgeist's abusive behavior is starting to turn his team against him. And his newest recruit, Toodle Pip, is not making matters any easier.

To advance his agenda, Zeitgeist has recruited a new weapon (or is that teammate?) to aim at the X-Statix.

UNSOCIAL MEDIA

PART 2

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THE ZEIT HOUSE,
X-CELLENT HQ.



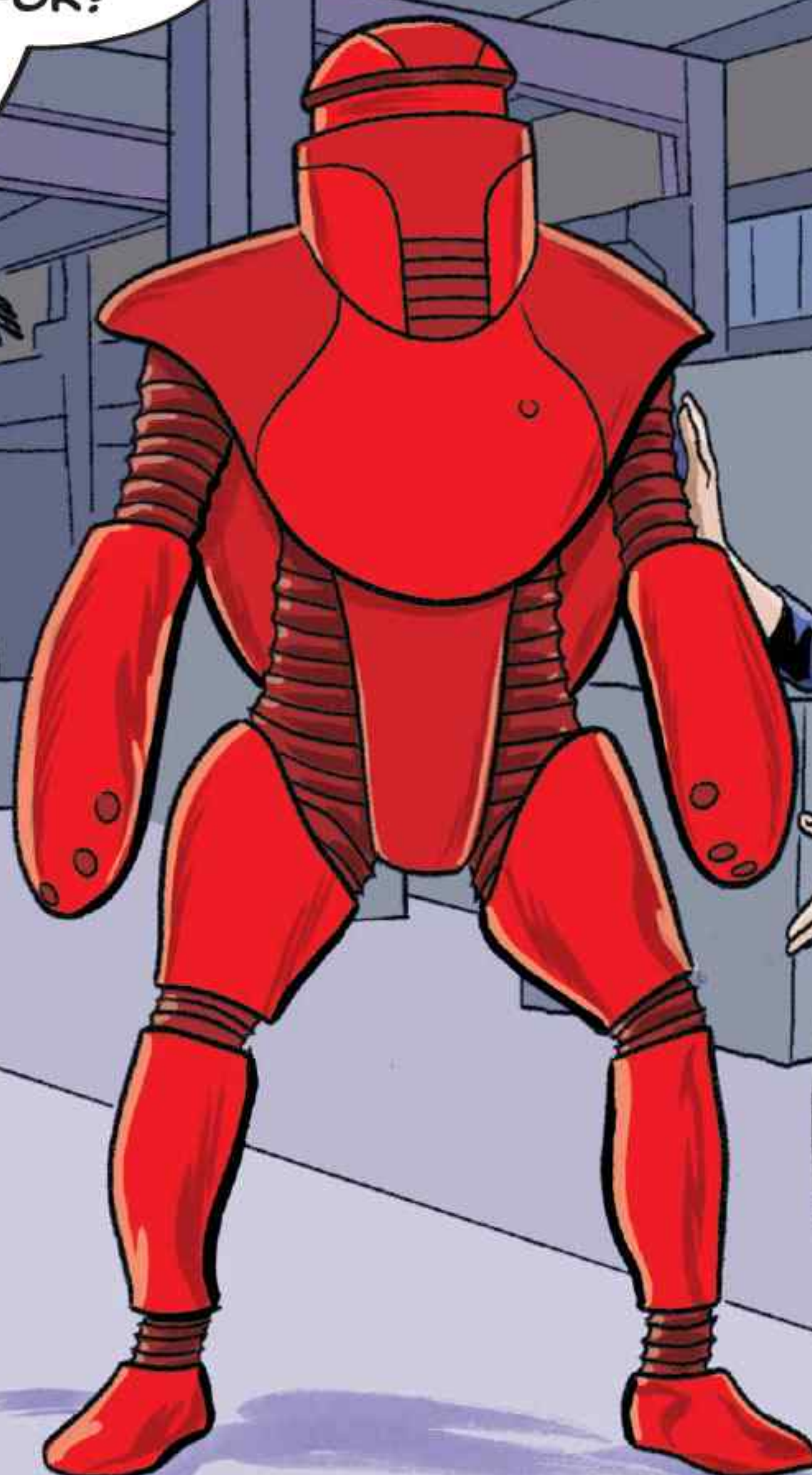
WELL,
MAX. YOU HAVE
THIRTY SECONDS
TO CONVINCE ME I
SHOULDN'T KILL
YOU.

AFTER ALL,
I HAVE THE
DIGITAL MAN.
WHAT DO I
NEED YOU
FOR?

I...I
C-CREATED
DOX...

DOX?

M-MY PET
NAME...FOR THE
DIGITAL MAN.



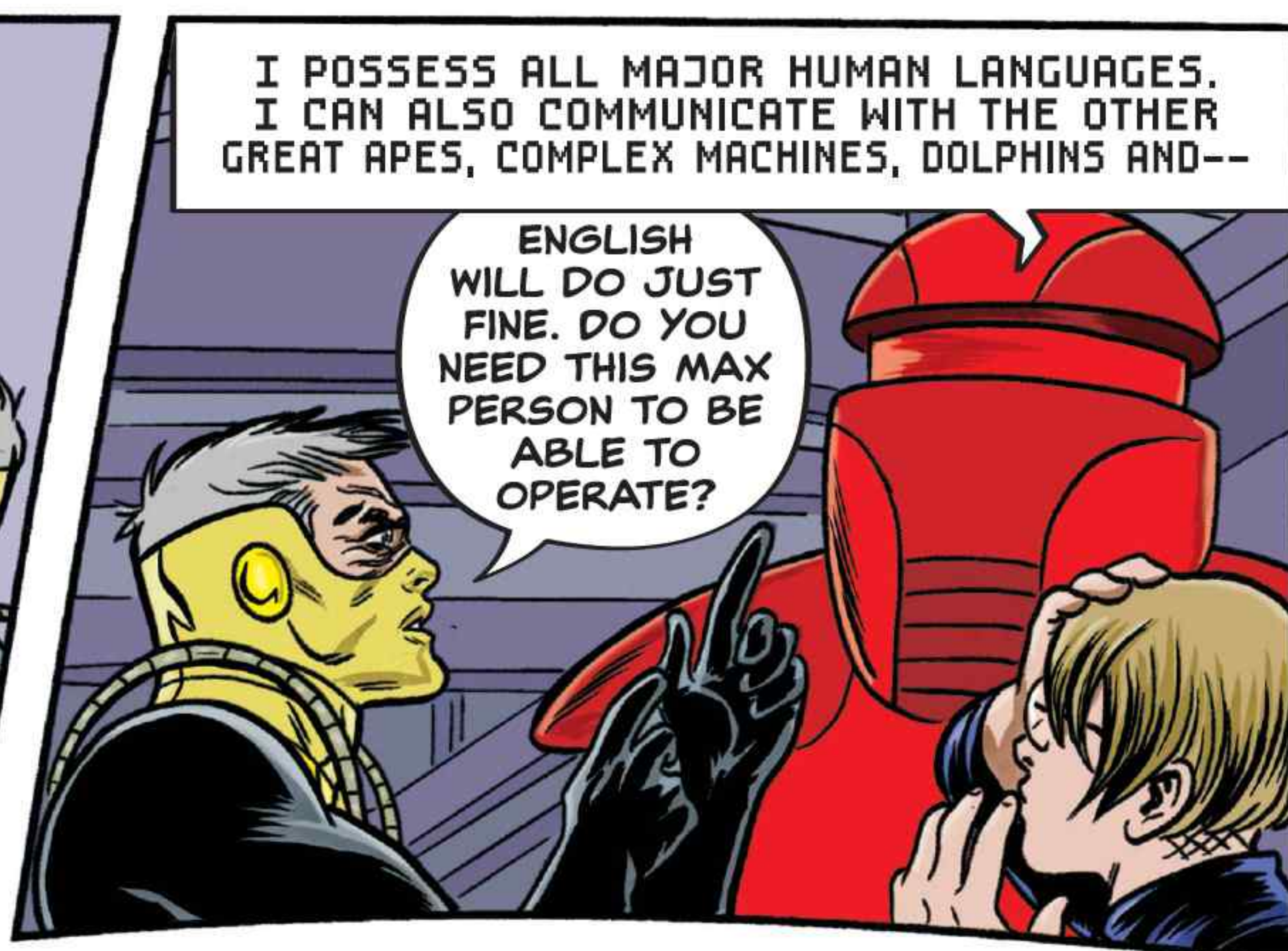
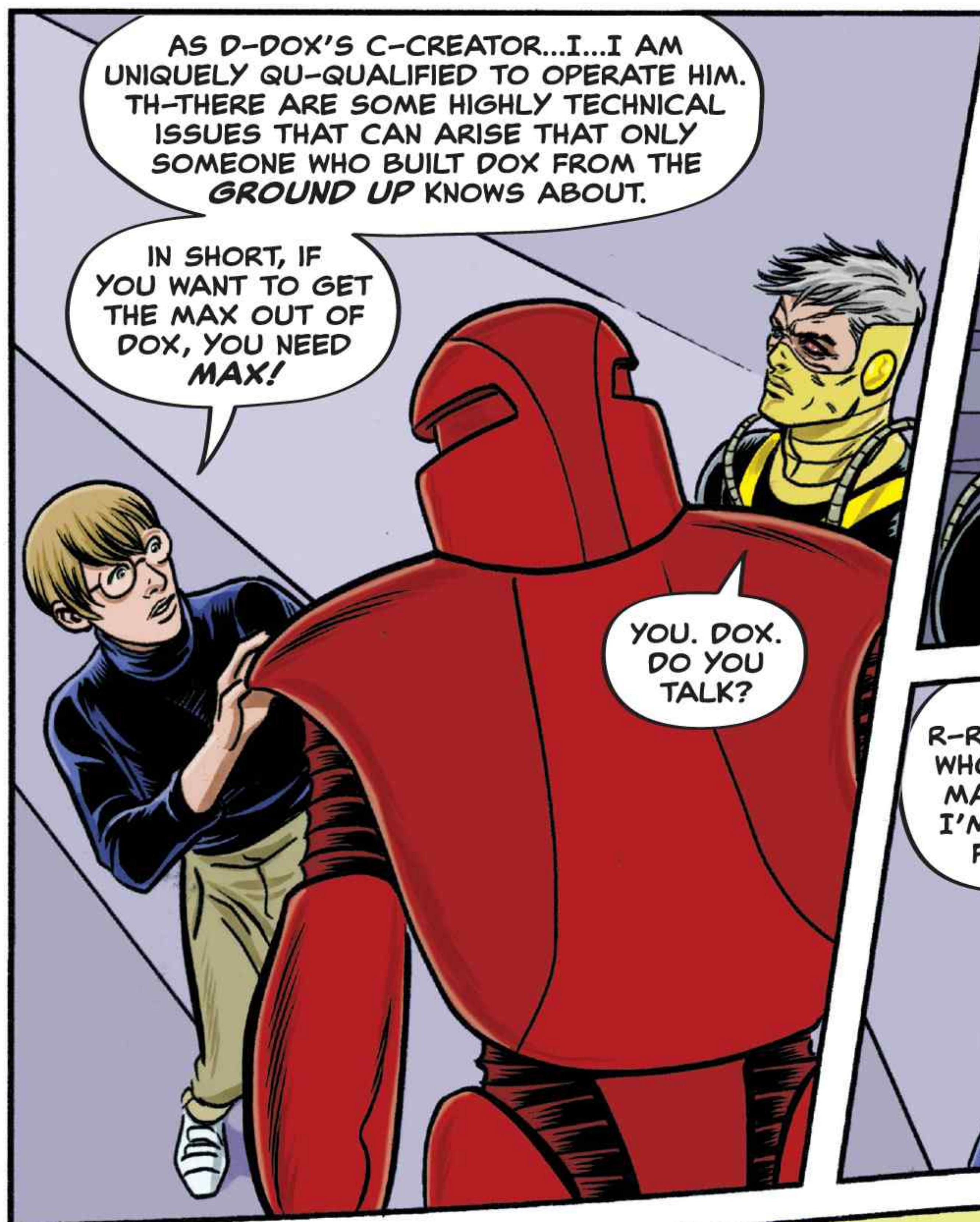
AFTER THE TERM DOX:
TO SEARCH AND IDENTIFY
INFORMATION ABOUT AN
INDIVIDUAL OR INDIVIDUALS ON
THE INTERNET...T-TYPICALLY
WITH MALICIOUS INTENT.



I MAY BE
GETTING OLD, BUT
I KNOW WHAT
DOXING IS.

YOU HAVE
FIFTEEN MORE
SECONDS.





CONCURRENTLY, IN THE AWARD-WINNING X-STATIX BUILDING.

"MYLES ALFRED, THE FEARLESS AUTHOR OF SUPER-HEROICS, HOMOSEXUALITY AND FATE..."

"...DIED ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT FROM INJURIES SUSTAINED WHILE BATTLING THE X-CELLENT."

THAT'S FROM THE NEW YORKER.

FEARLESS AUTHOR? NOT BAD! I THINK YOU'RE STARTING TO ENJOY BEING DEAD.

MAYBE IT'S EVERY WRITER'S FANTASY TO BE ABLE TO READ HIS OWN OBITUARY...BUT I'M STILL DEEPLY UNCOMFORTABLE ABOUT ALL THIS SUBTERFUGE.

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT, GIRL JOE?

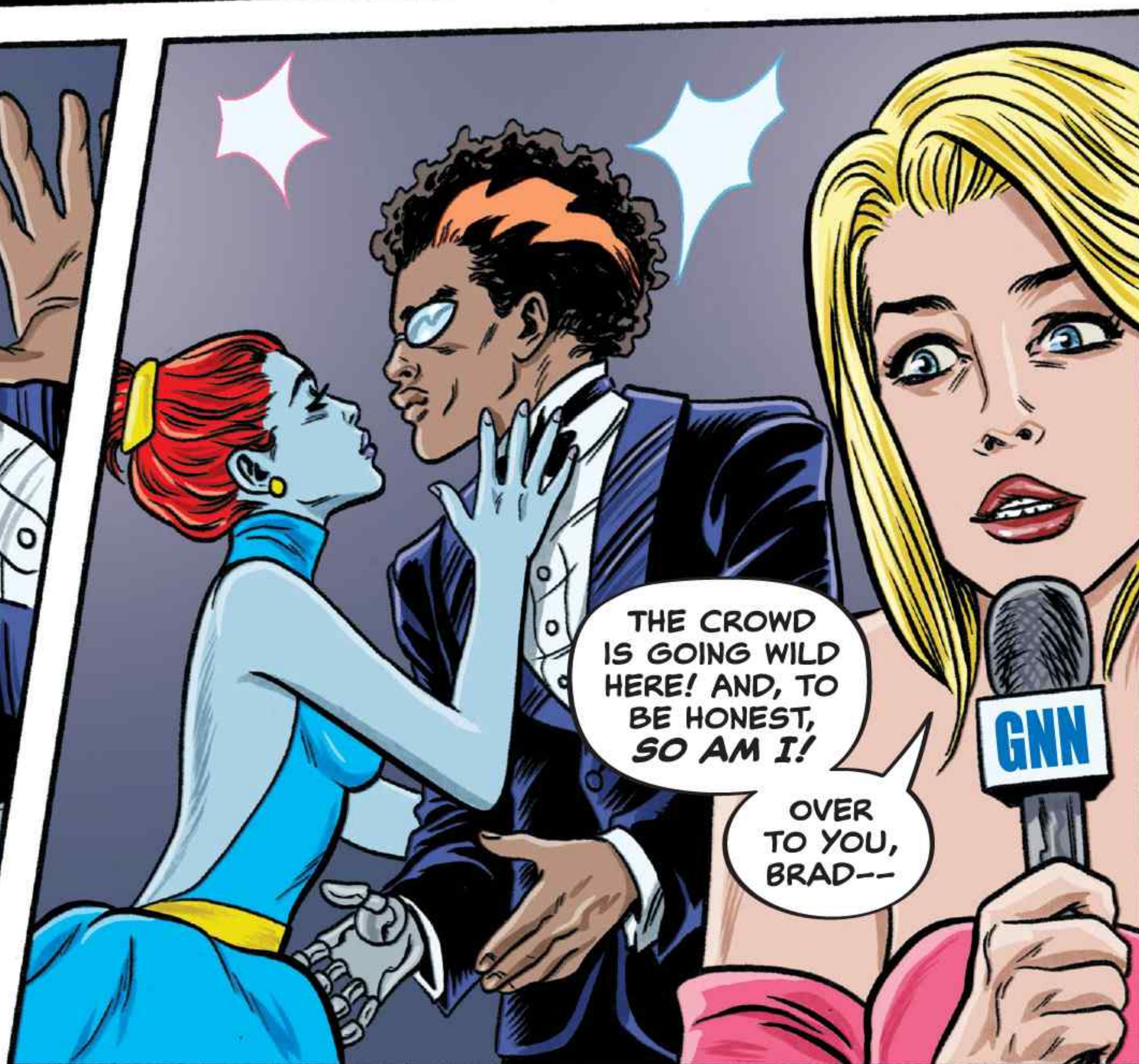
MYLES' DEATH AND KATIE AND MIKE'S INTERRACIAL LOVE AFFAIR HAVE REALLY CAUGHT THE MOOD OF THE NATION. PEOPLE ARE LOVING X-STATIX.

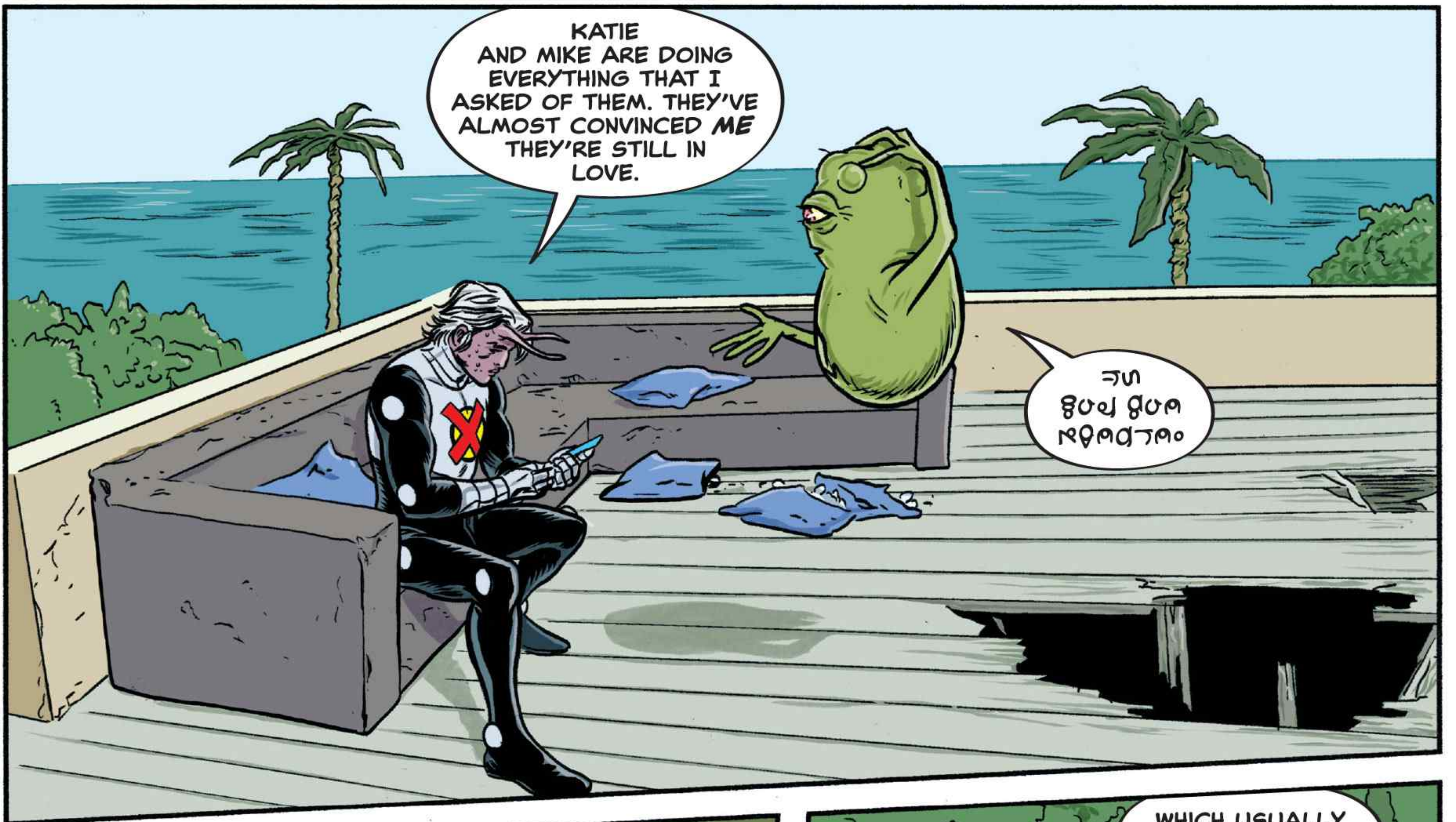
PLUS, SALES OF MYLES' NOVELS ARE THROUGH THE ROOF!

SEE! IT'S WORKING.

I JUST WISH I COULD TELL FENTON THE TRUTH. HE'LL BE DISTRAUGHT.







BACK AT THE ZEIT HOUSE...

IS IT WORKING? ARE YOU CONNECTED TO THE WORLD WIDE WEB?

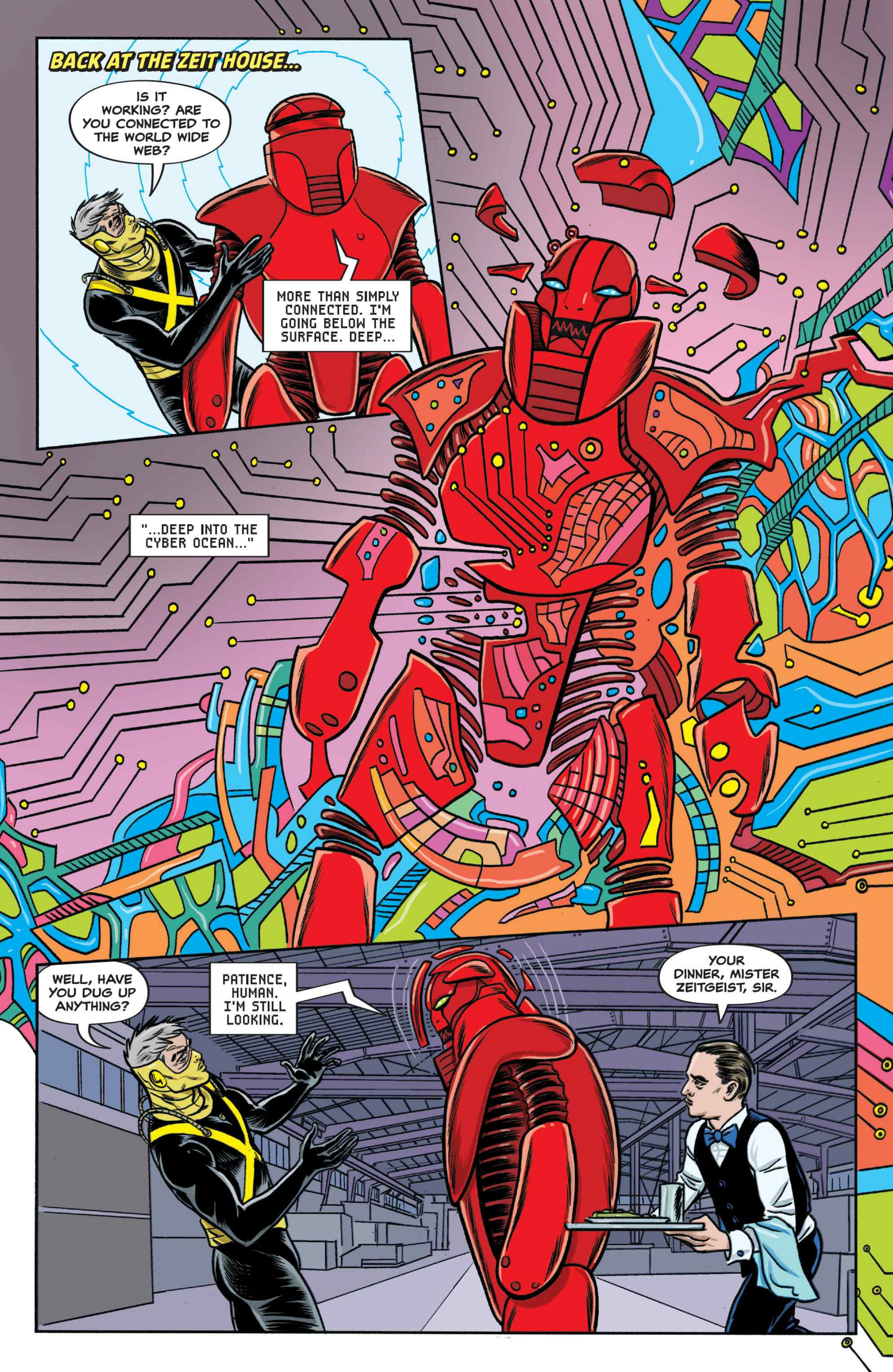
MORE THAN SIMPLY CONNECTED. I'M GOING BELOW THE SURFACE. DEEP...

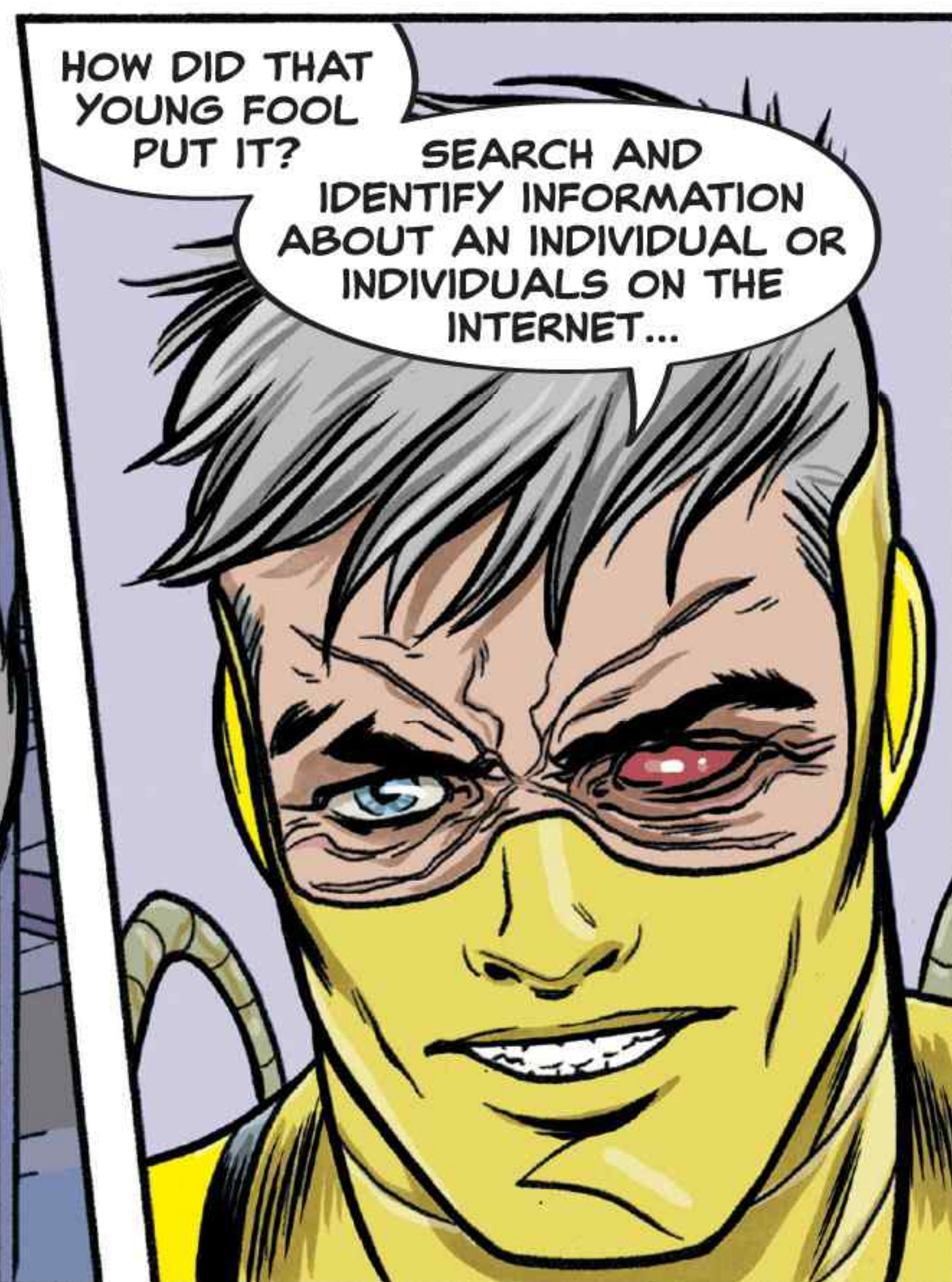
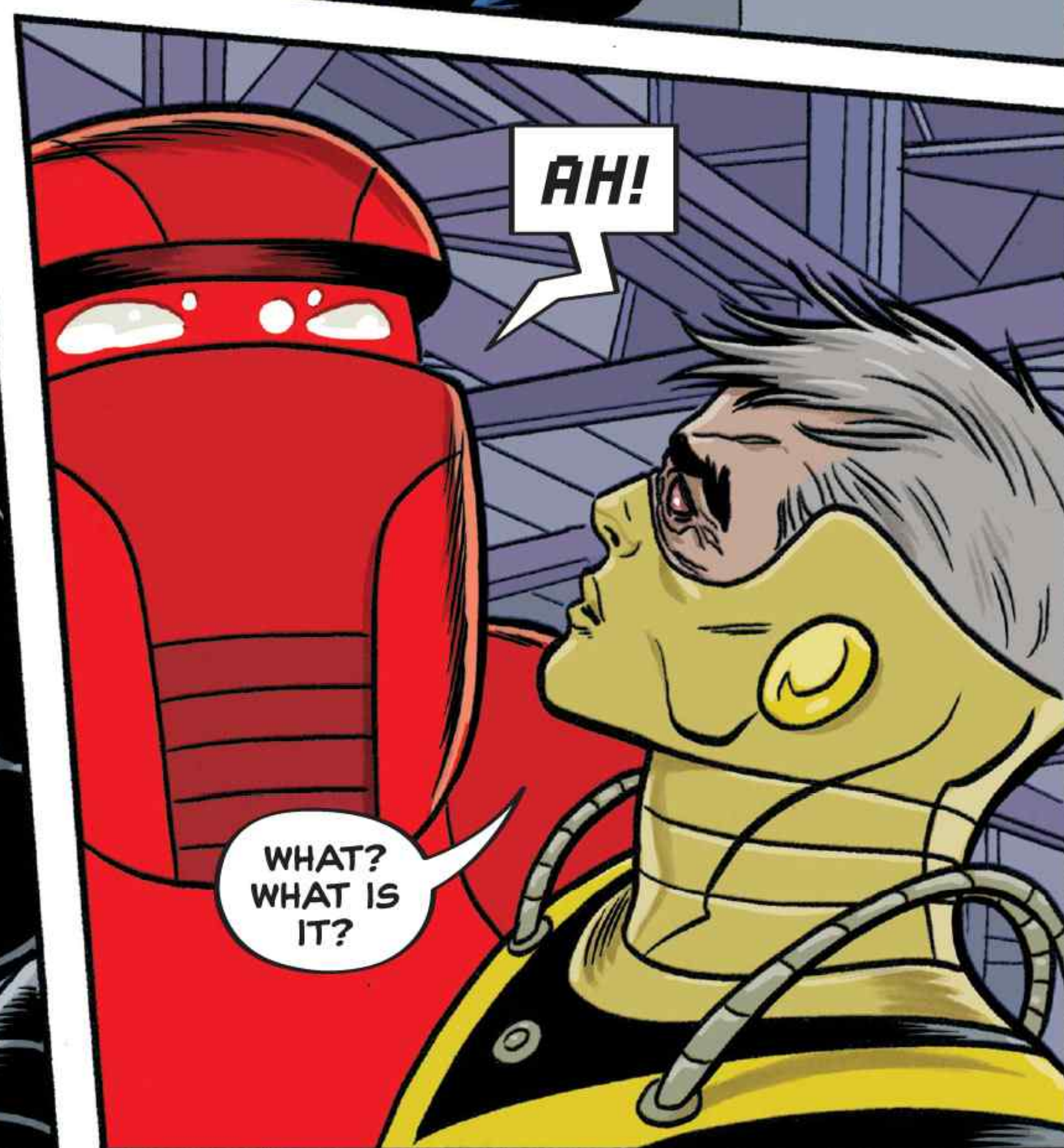
"...DEEP INTO THE CYBER OCEAN..."

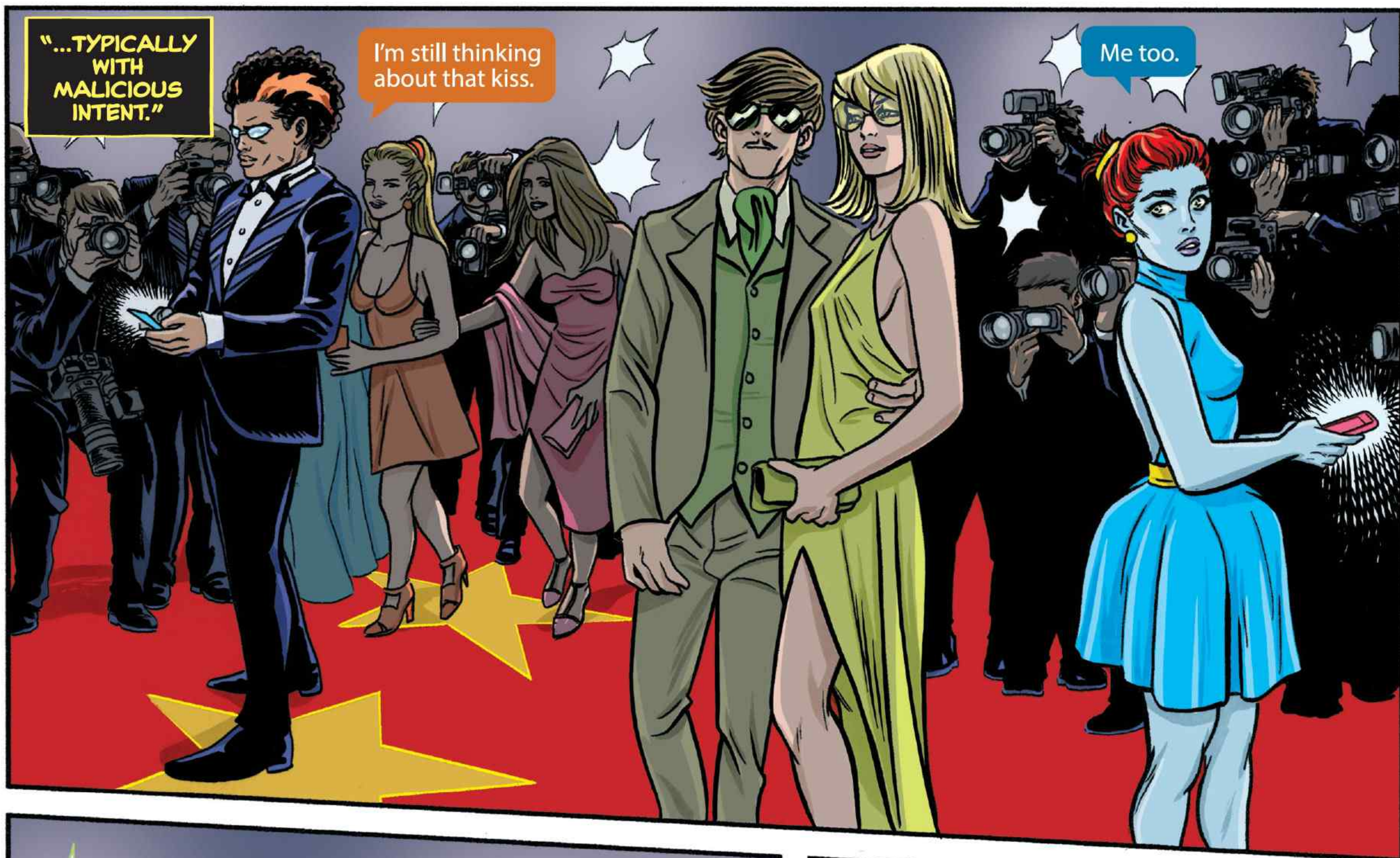
WELL, HAVE YOU DUG UP ANYTHING?

PATIENCE, HUMAN. I'M STILL LOOKING.

YOUR DINNER, MISTER ZEITGEIST, SIR.







SANTA MONICA.



MIKE, DO YOU THINK MAYBE...WE COULD PRETEND TO KISS AGAIN?



WE SURE AS HELL CAN TRY.

HMM...



WHAT THE---?!



CHARLATANS!

FRAUDS!

FOOLING THE NATION!



WHAT'S GOING ON?

MUSTA FOUND OUT WE WERE FAKING IT.

BUT HOW?



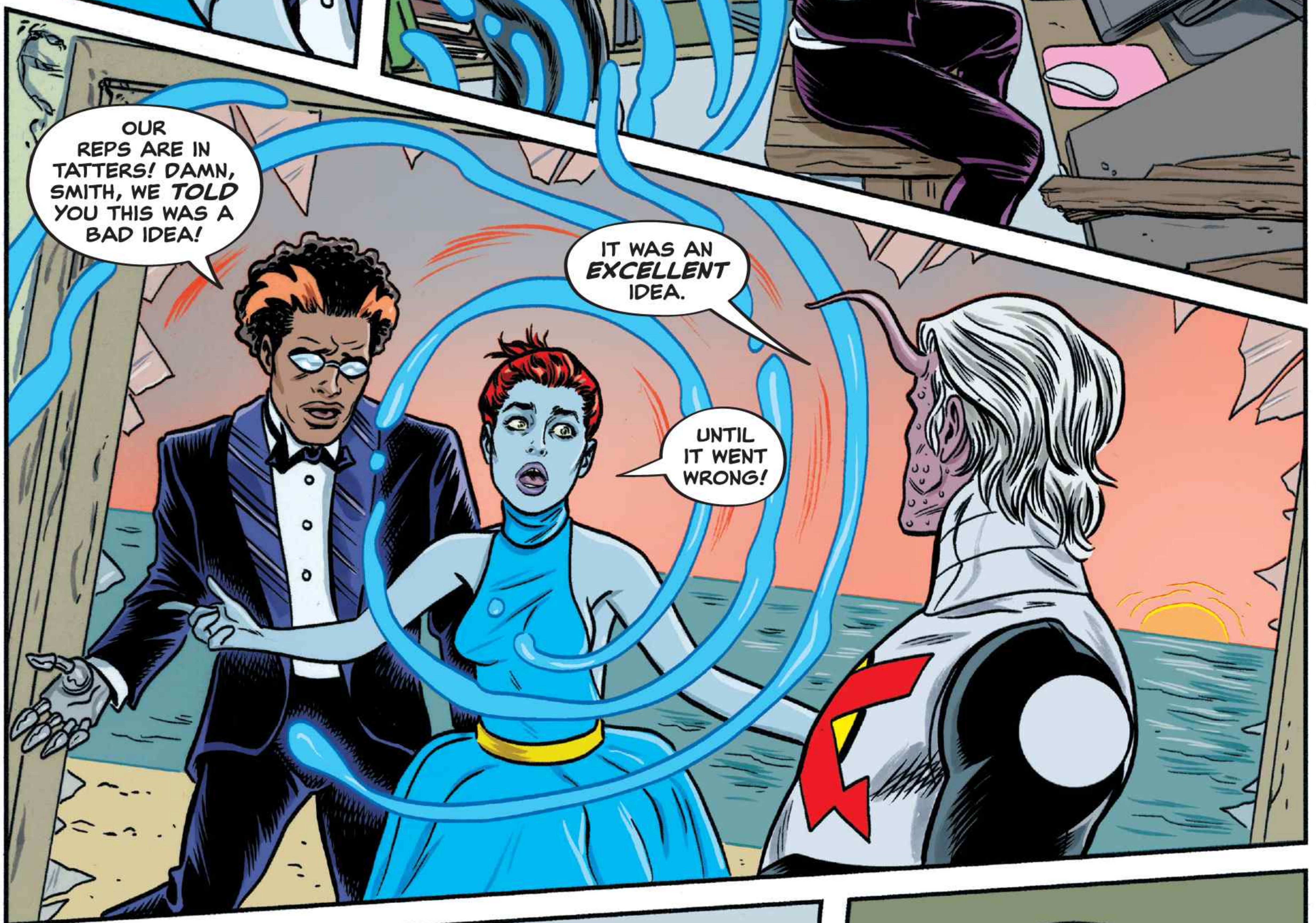
"WE'VE BEEN TOTALLY DOXED, MISTER SMITH."

FAKE



BUT ALL OUR PHONES AND EMAILS HAVE **DEEP ENCRYPTIONS** DESIGNED BY **DOOP HIMSELF**.

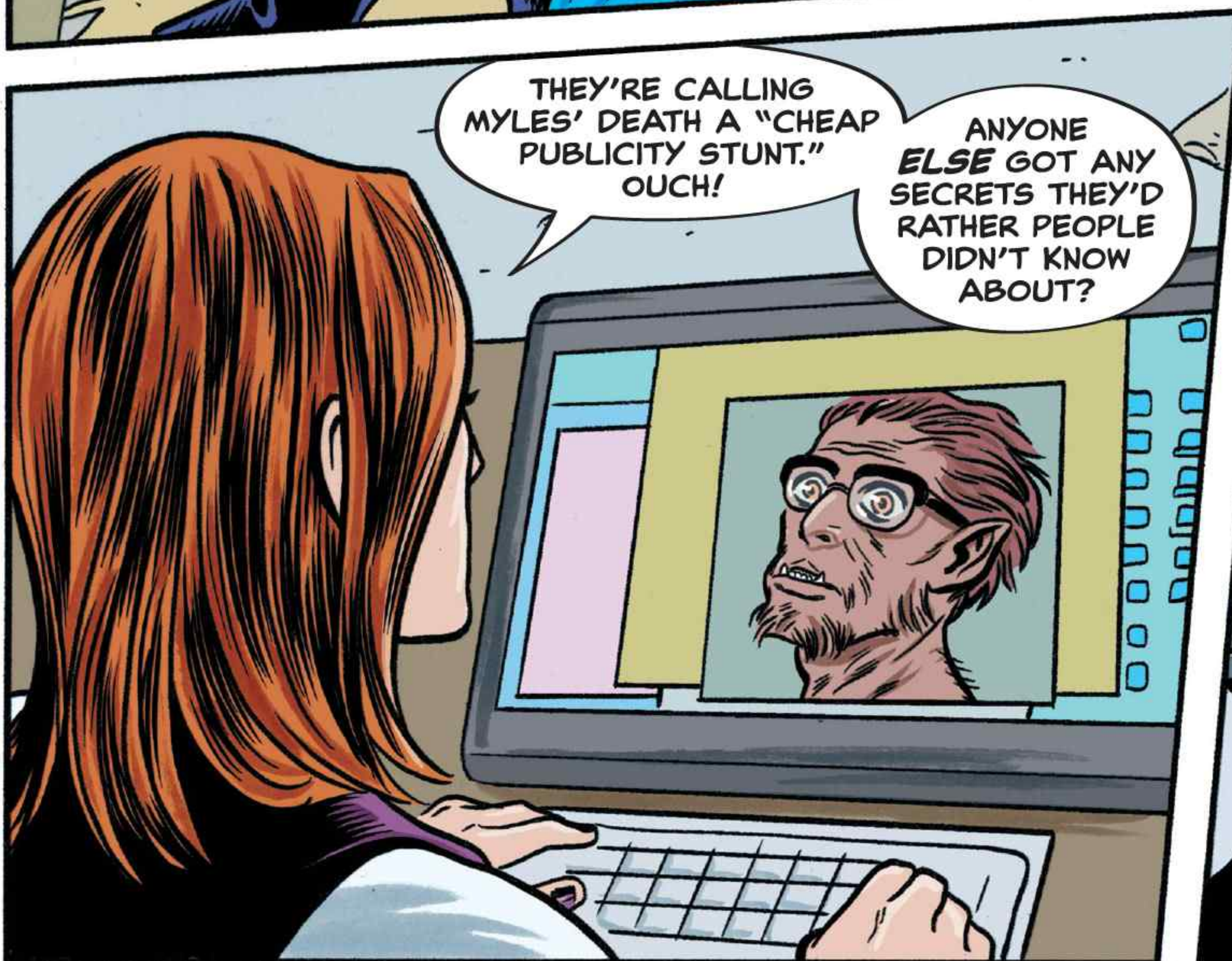
WELL, *SOMEONE'S* DIGGING THROUGH YOUR DIRTY LAUNDRY.



OUR REPS ARE IN TATTERS! DAMN, SMITH, WE TOLD YOU THIS WAS A BAD IDEA!

IT WAS AN **EXCELLENT** IDEA.

UNTIL IT WENT WRONG!



THEY'RE CALLING MYLES' DEATH A "CHEAP PUBLICITY STUNT." OUCH!

ANYONE **ELSE** GOT ANY SECRETS THEY'D RATHER PEOPLE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT?

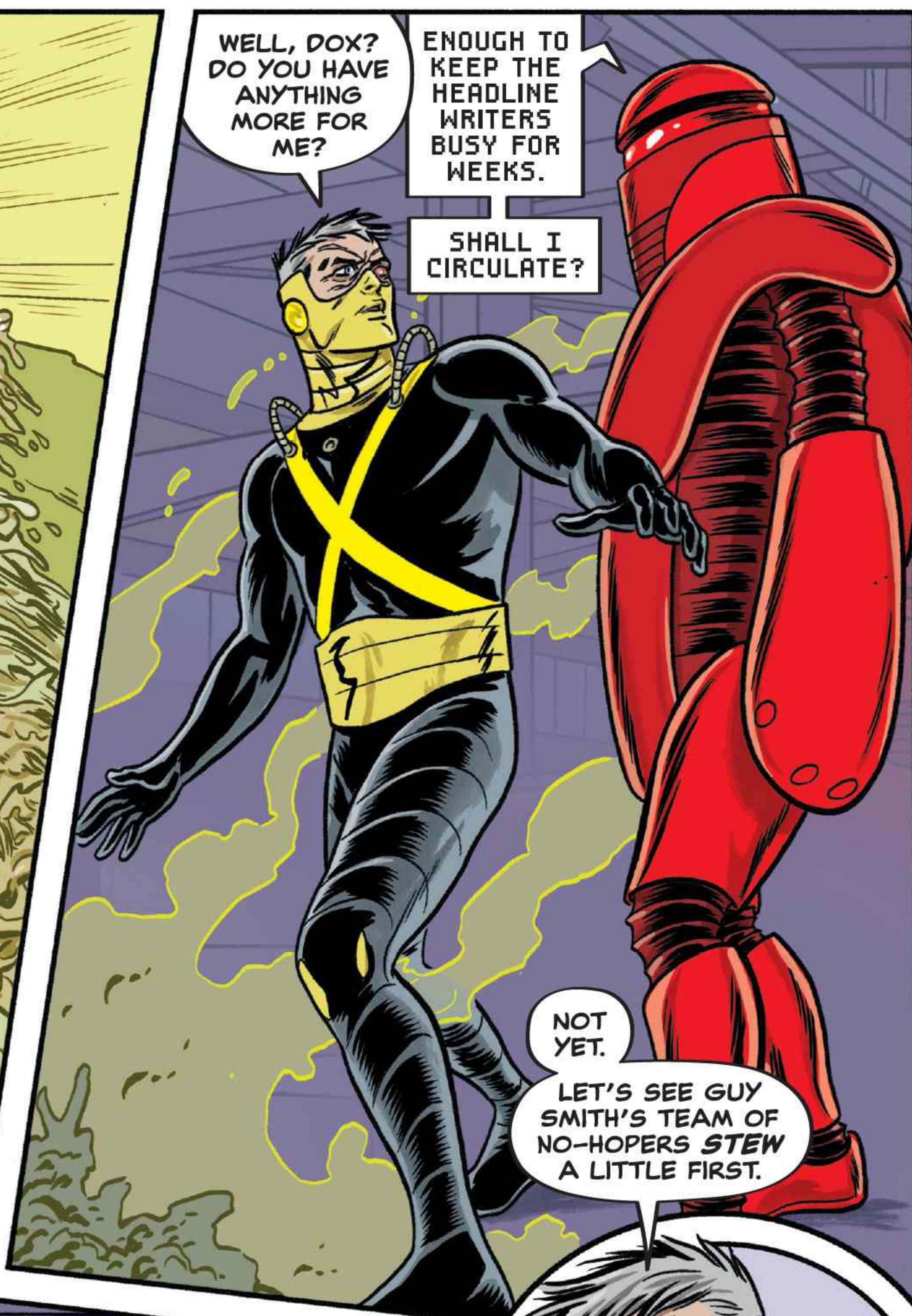


I...I FEEL A LITTLE SICK.



AND NOW
THE FOOD'S
TOO HOT!

AAAGHH!



WELL, DOX?
DO YOU HAVE
ANYTHING
MORE FOR
ME?

ENOUGH TO
KEEP THE
HEADLINE
WRITERS
BUSY FOR
WEEKS.

SHALL I
CIRCULATE?

NOT
YET.

LET'S SEE GUY
SMITH'S TEAM OF
NO-HOPERS *STEW*
A LITTLE FIRST.



THAT
POOR WAITER!
ZEITGEIST IS GETTING
WORSE, PIP.

I GUESS HE'S
UNDER A LOT OF
PRESSURE.

*CAPTAIN
AMERICA* IS UNDER
A LOT OF PRESSURE.
I BET HE DOESN'T
SLAUGHTER THE
AVENGERS' *KITCHEN
STAFF*.



IF HE'S LIKE THIS NOW...
THINK HOW HE'LL BE WHEN HE'S
TRANSFORMED INTO A *GOD*!

**AN HOUR LATER, X-STATIX
GET A SURPRISE VIDEO
CALL...**

YOU ARE
BUT SMALL AND
INSIGNIFICANT FLEAS.
I WILL CRUSH YOU
WHenever IT
PLEASES ME.

WHOA! OLD
GUY GETS
DELUSIONS OF
GRANDEUR!

GIRL JOE'S
RIGHT. YOU'VE
GOT TO BE
CAREFUL,
ZEITGEIST.
THAT'S A
CERTIFIABLE
MENTAL
DISORDER.

IS IT A
DELUSION THAT
MIKE AND KATIE'S SHAM
RELATIONSHIP WAS EXPOSED?
OR A SO-CALLED DEAD
AUTHOR IS MIRACULOUSLY
BREATHING AGAIN?

OUR
PR PEOPLE
ARE ALREADY
WORKING ON THAT.
IN A FEW DAYS,
EVERYONE WILL BE
TALKING ABOUT
SOMETHING
ELSE.

YOU
COULD BE
RIGHT.

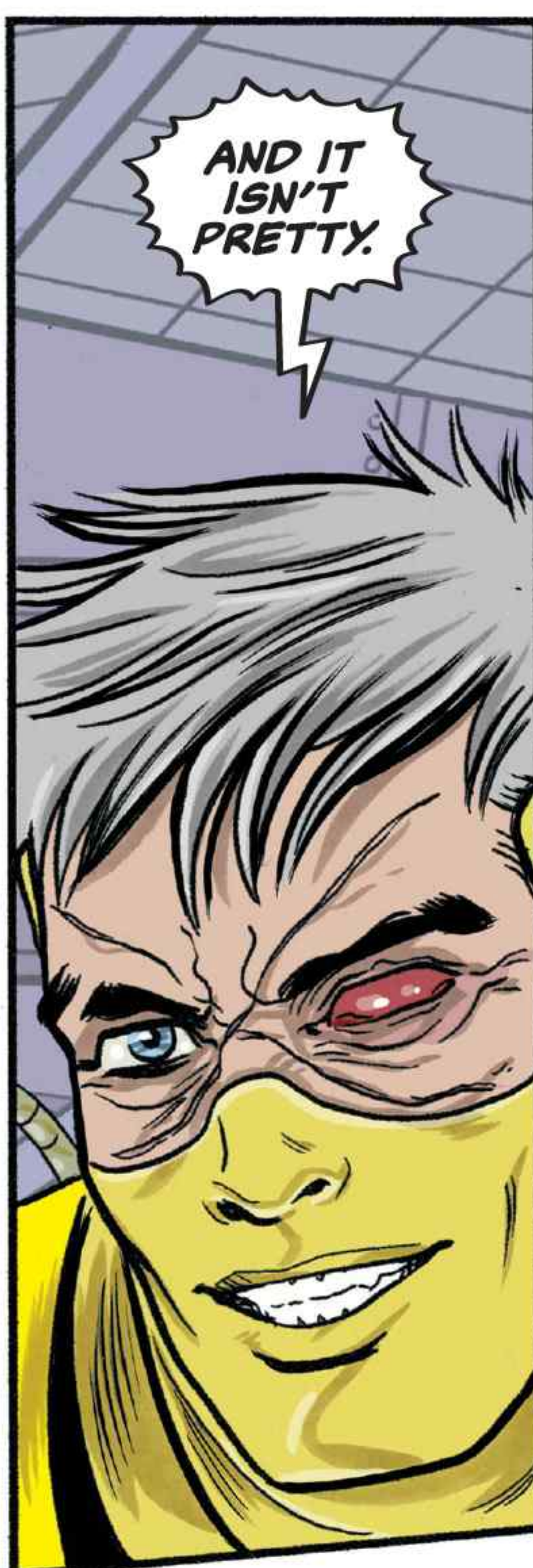
MAYBE THEY'LL
BE TALKING ABOUT
YOUR USE OF YOUR
WHITE PRIVILEGE
TO FURTHER YOUR
CAREER.

I D-DON'T
KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE TALKING
ABOUT!



YOU WERE MADE LEADER OF X-STATIX EVEN THOUGH TIKE ALICAR, A.K.A. THE ANARCHIST, HAD SENIORITY AND WAS BETTER QUALIFIED.

THERE'S A NAME FOR THAT.



AND IT ISN'T PRETTY.



FACE IT, THEY'LL BE TEARING DOWN YOUR STATUES AND BURNING THE MISTER SENSITIVE CUDDLY TOYS.



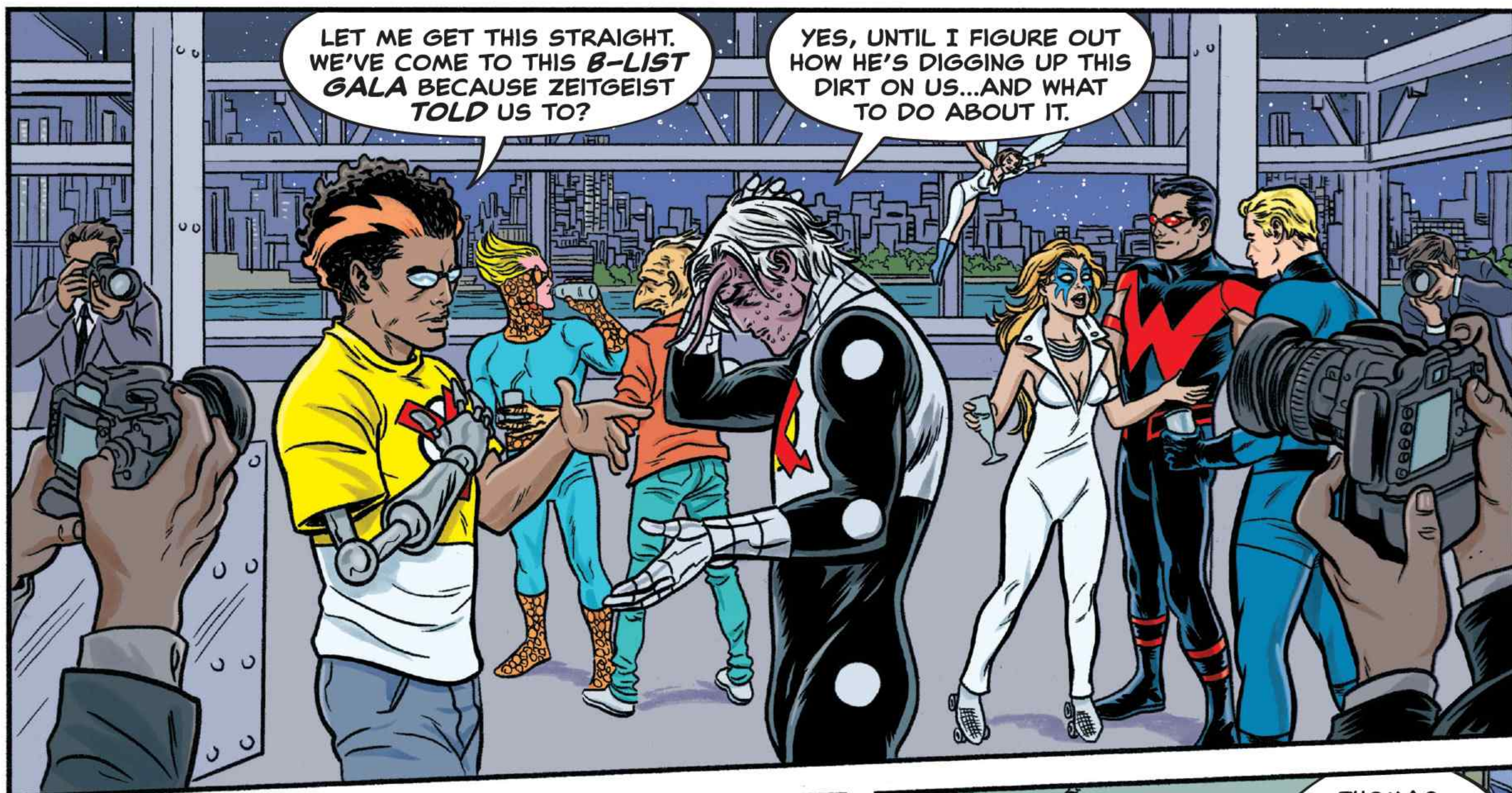
HE'S RIGHT, HOMBRE.

AND THEN THERE'S ROSA LEMPER, A.K.A. THE WALL...AND PHATTY. EVEN DEAD GIRL!

A-AND I SUPPOSE YOU EXPECT ME TO BEG YOU NOT TO DISCLOSE ALL OUR DIRTY SECRETS?

NO, MISTER SENSITIVE...

...I EXPECT YOU TO PARTY.





"...WHAT IS ZEITGEIST UP TO?"

UNO, YOU TAKE OUT THE MOVIES.

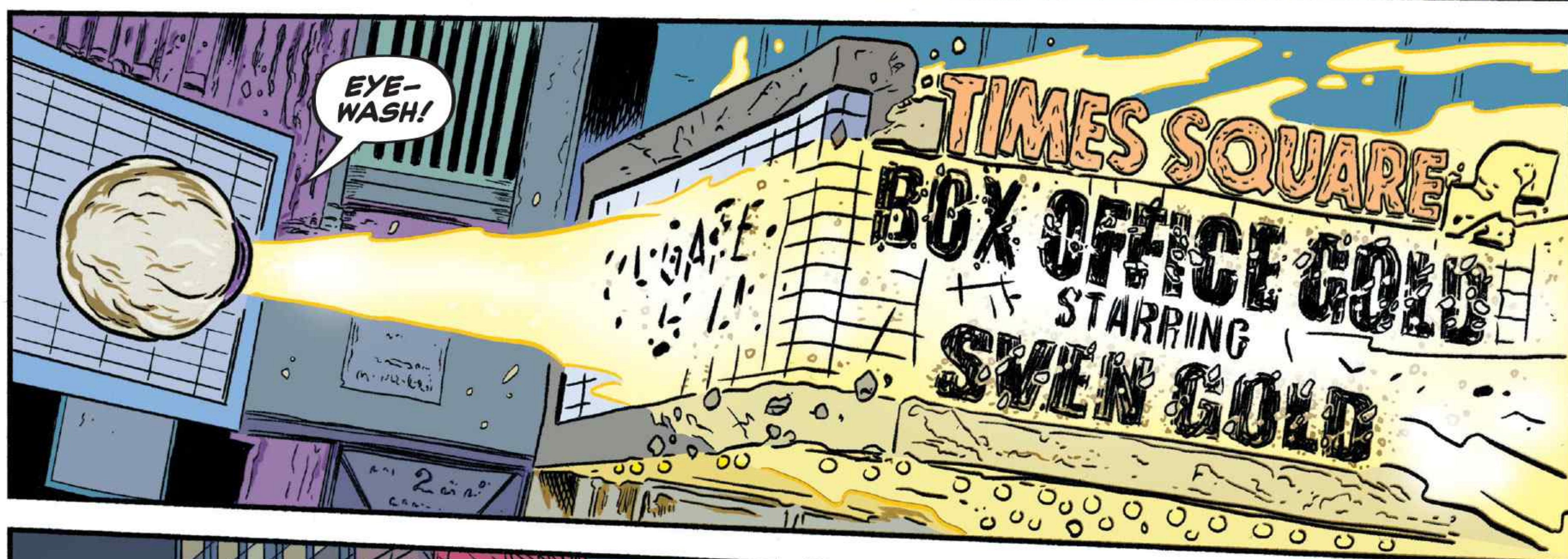
OH YEAH! HOLLYWOOD, HERE I COME!

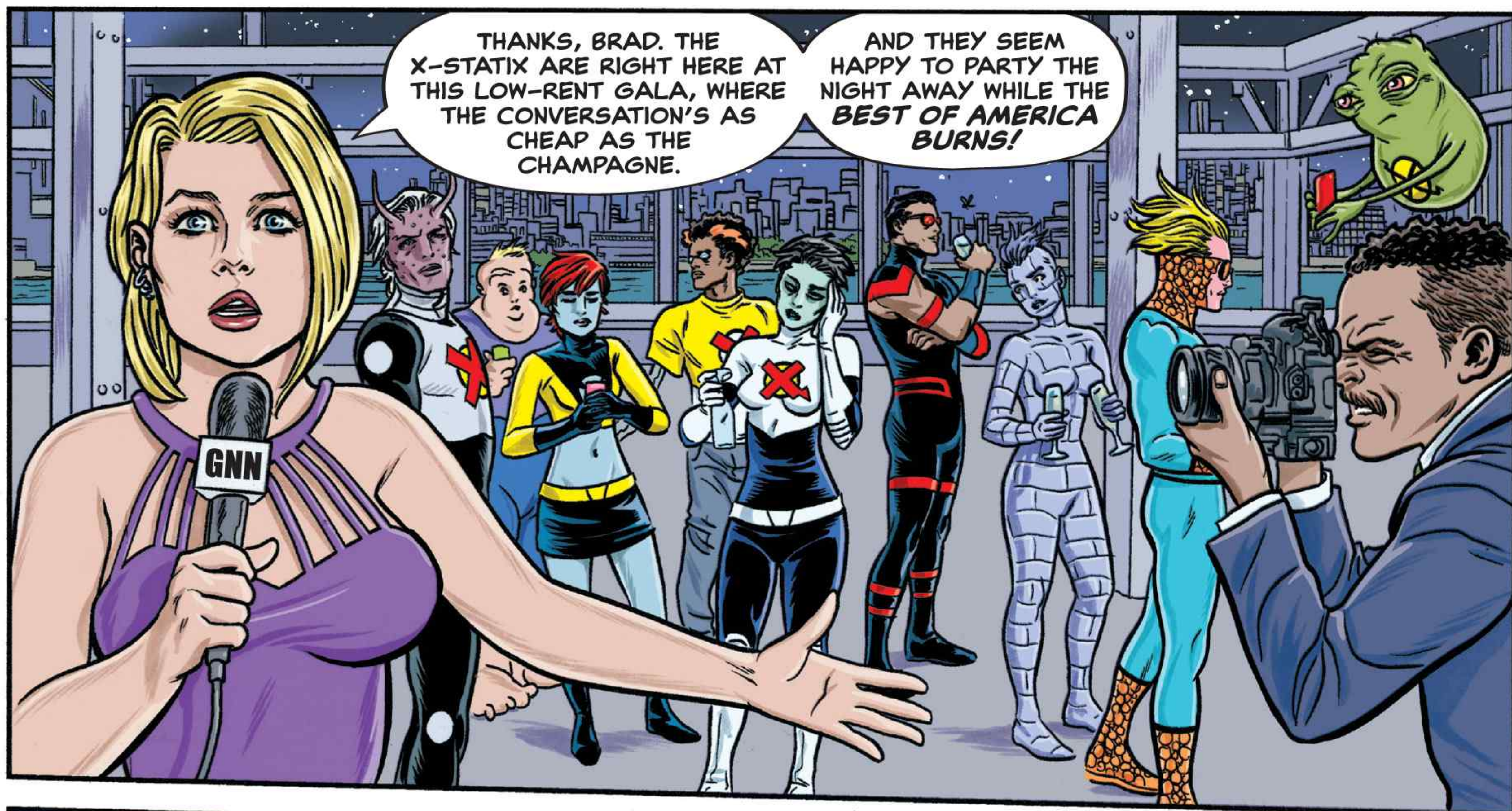
STRIPE, CONCENTRATE ON MULTINATIONAL LUXURY BRANDS.

CAN I TAKE LINGERIE?

DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, HURT JOHN...

...YOU AND MIRROR GIRL KEEP THE COPS AWAY...





THANKS, BRAD. THE X-STATIX ARE RIGHT HERE AT THIS LOW-RENT GALA, WHERE THE CONVERSATION'S AS CHEAP AS THE CHAMPAGNE.

AND THEY SEEM HAPPY TO PARTY THE NIGHT AWAY WHILE THE *BEST OF AMERICA BURNS!*

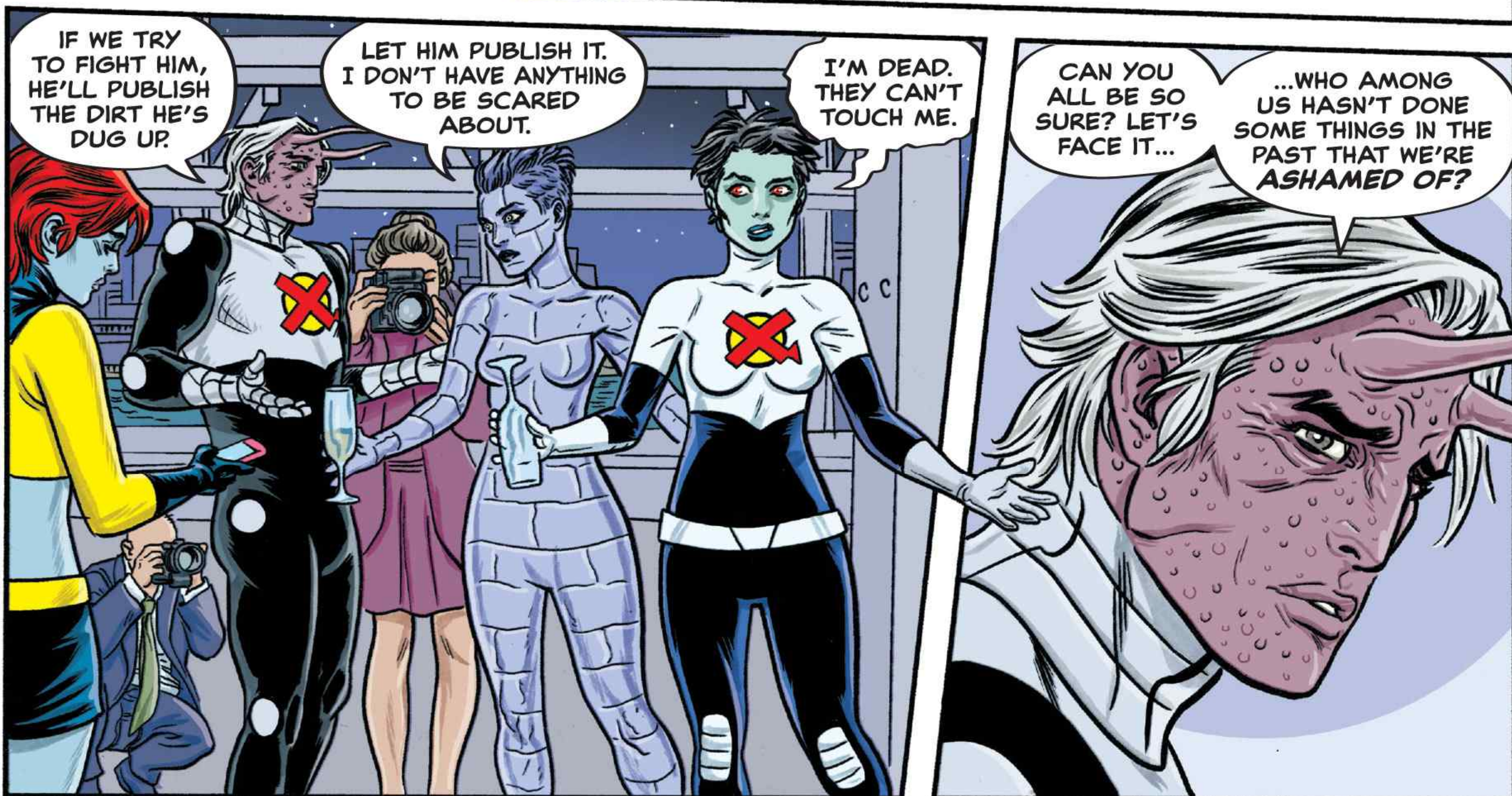


WE'RE LEACHING FOLLOWERS TO ZEITGEIST.



ZEITGEIST

Following: 0 Followers: 499.8M



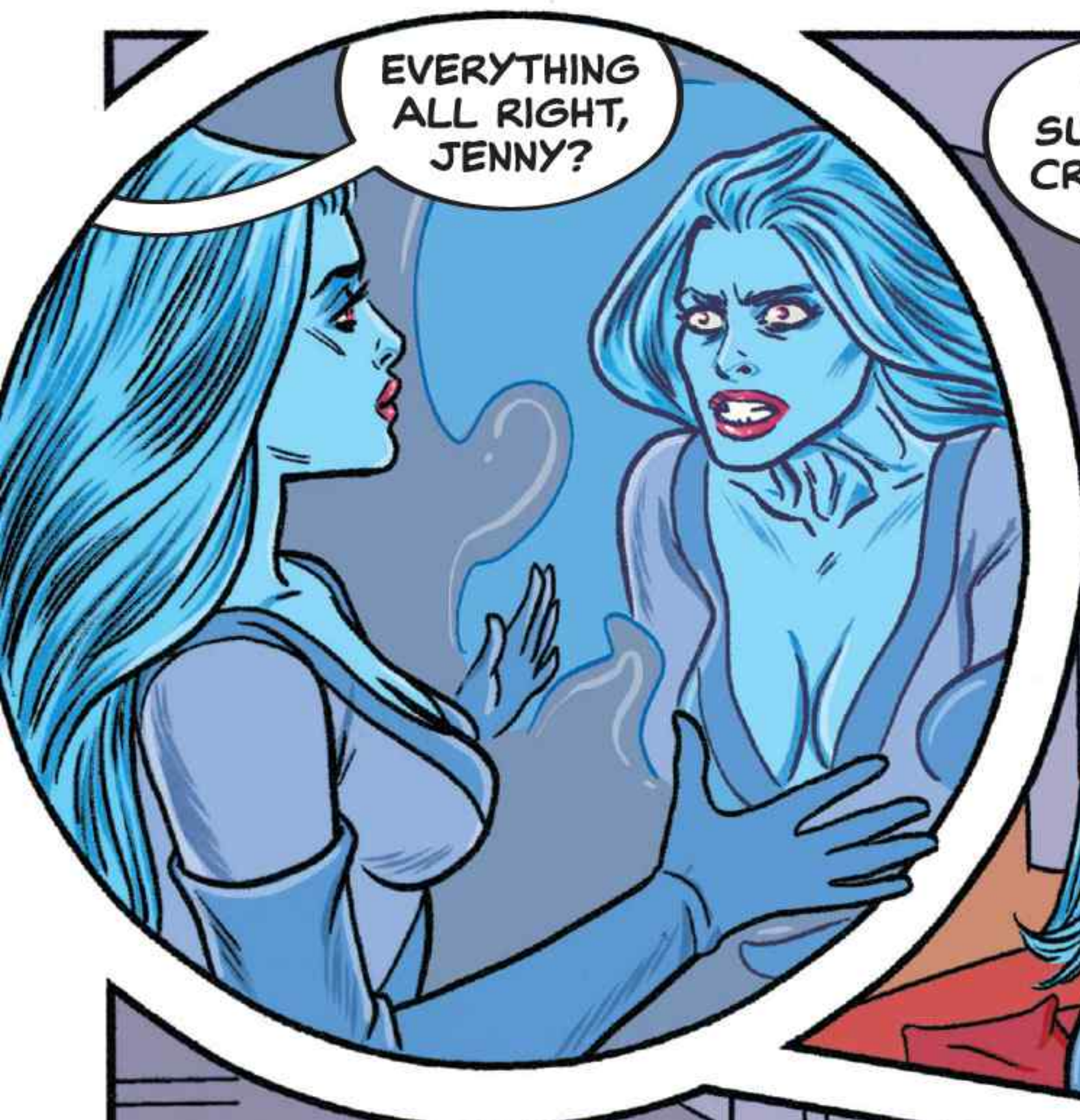
IF WE TRY TO FIGHT HIM, HE'LL PUBLISH THE DIRT HE'S DUG UP.

LET HIM PUBLISH IT. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO BE SCARED ABOUT.

I'M DEAD. THEY CAN'T TOUCH ME.

CAN YOU ALL BE SO SURE? LET'S FACE IT...

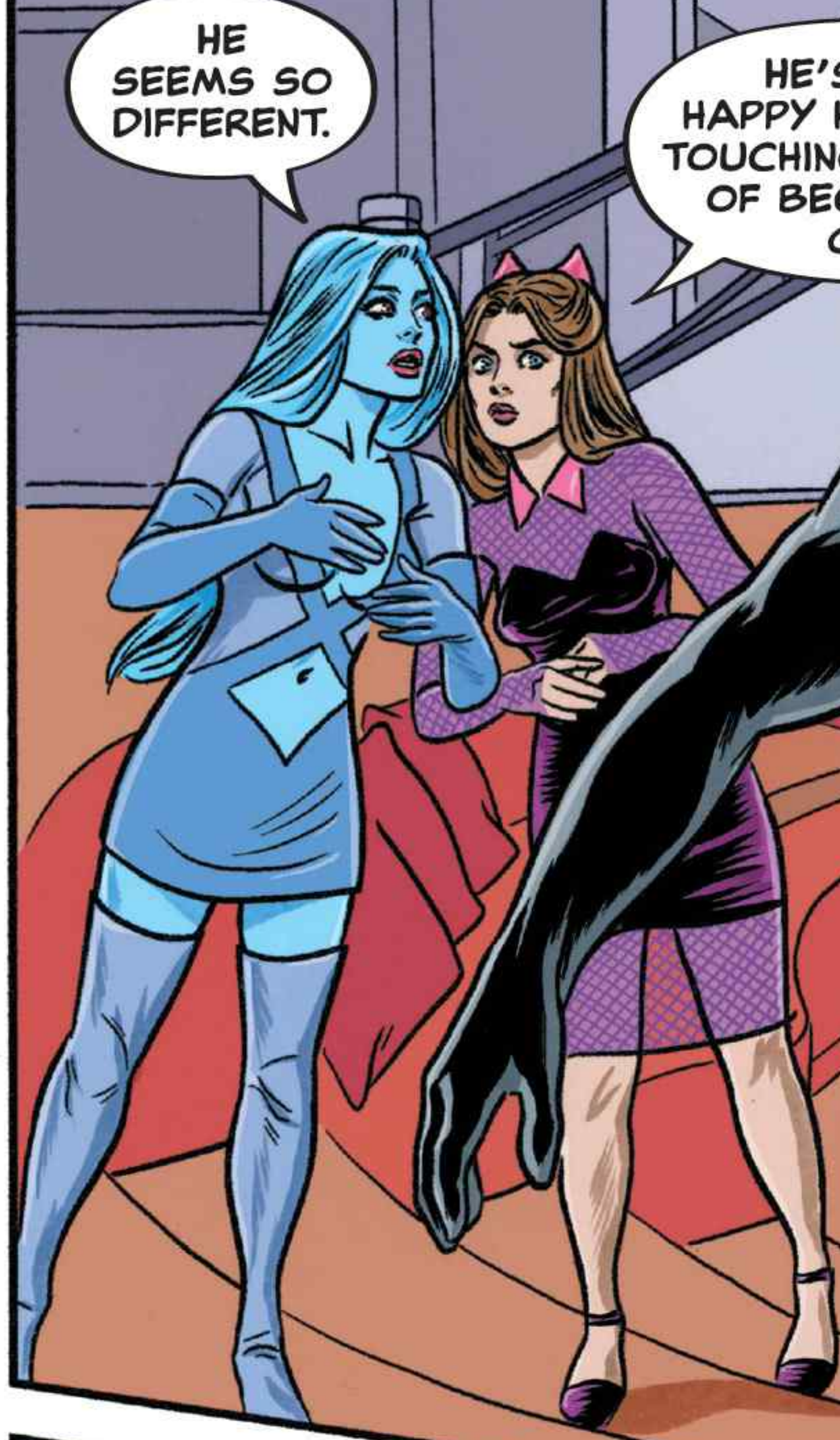
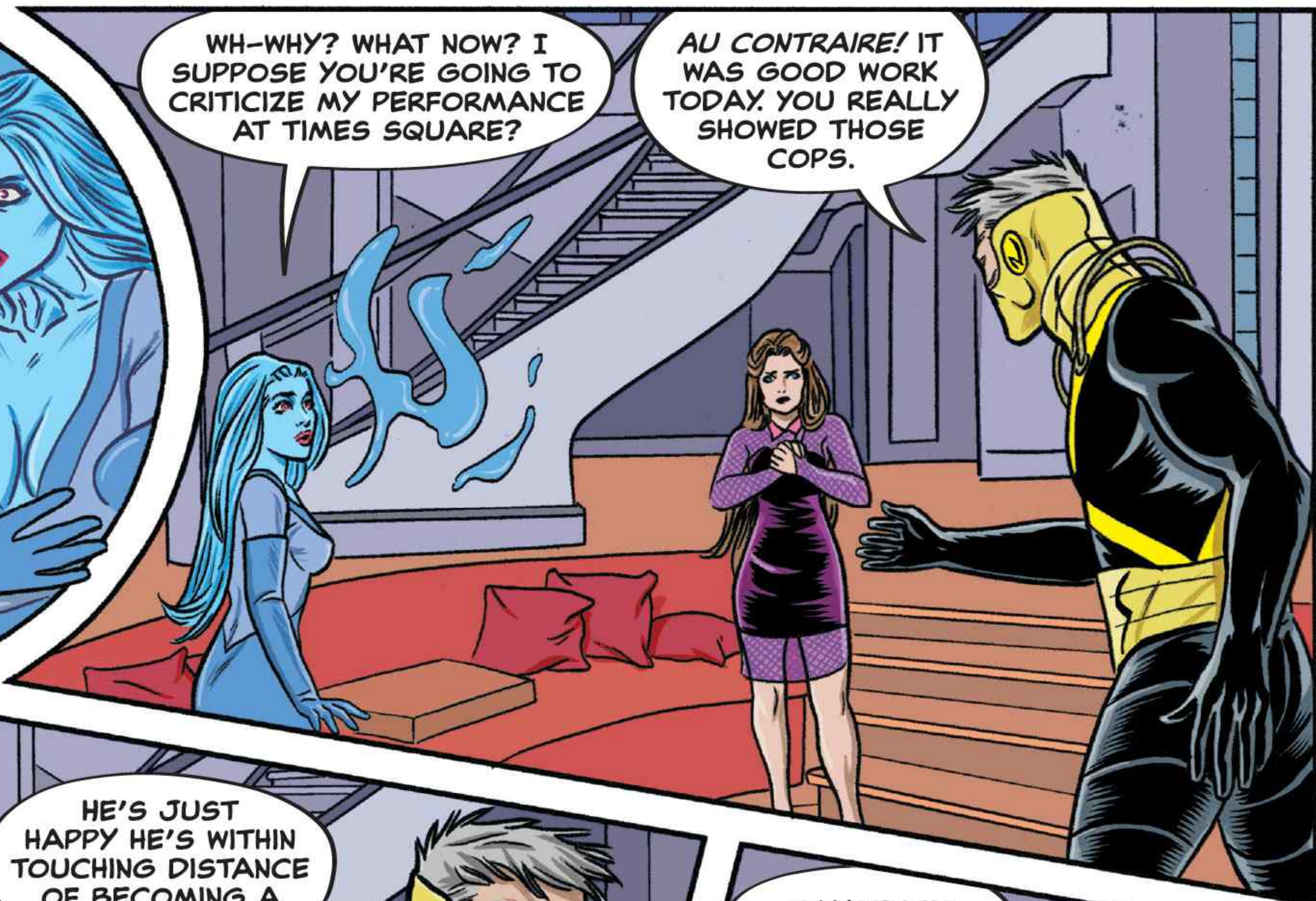
...WHO AMONG US HASN'T DONE SOME THINGS IN THE PAST THAT WE'RE ASHAMED OF?



EVERYTHING
ALL RIGHT,
JENNY?

WH-WHY? WHAT NOW? I
SUPPOSE YOU'RE GOING TO
CRITICIZE MY PERFORMANCE
AT TIMES SQUARE?

AU CONTRAIRE! IT
WAS GOOD WORK
TODAY. YOU REALLY
SHOWED THOSE
COPS.



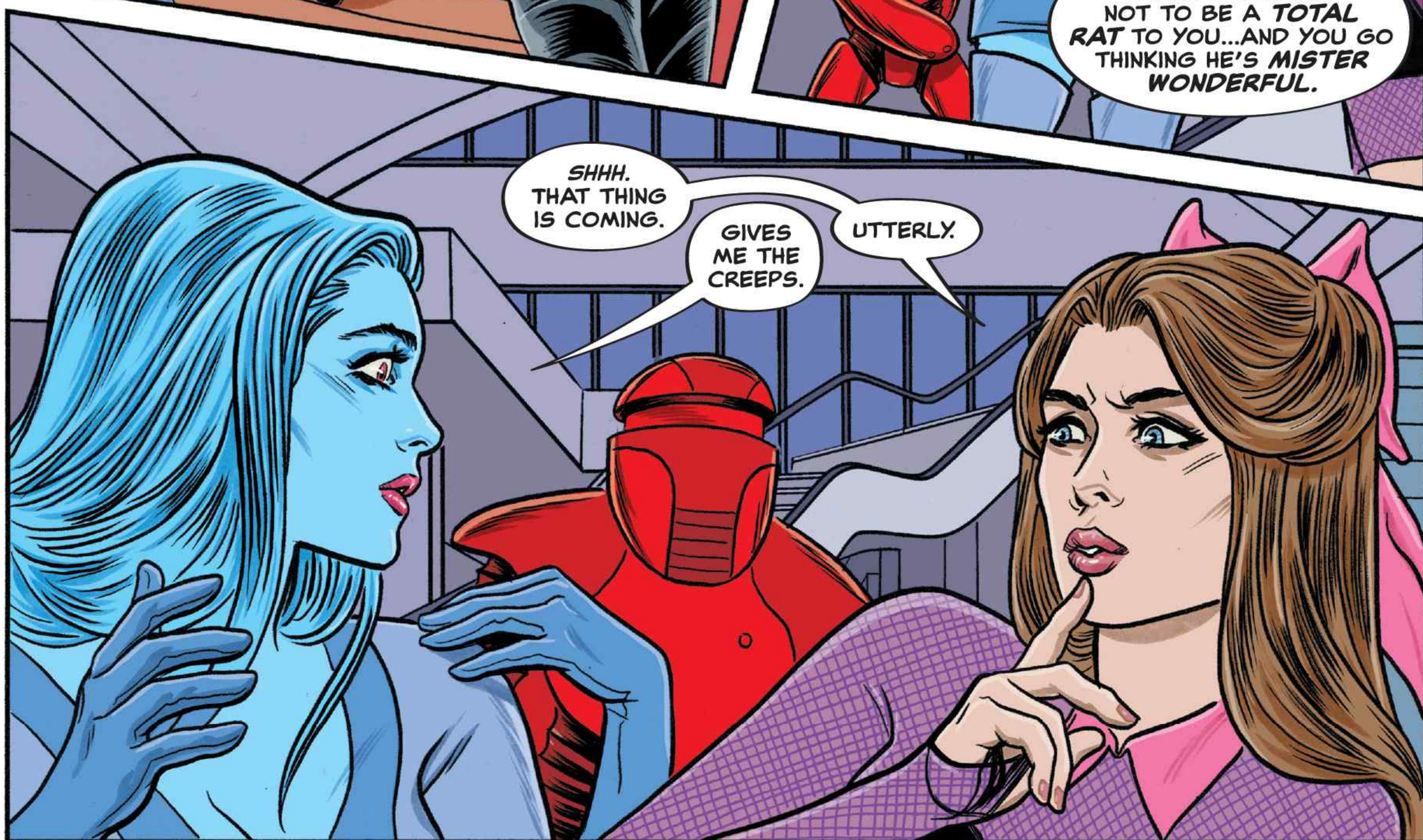
HE
SEEMS SO
DIFFERENT.

HE'S JUST
HAPPY HE'S WITHIN
TOUCHING DISTANCE
OF BECOMING A
GOD.



MAYBE IT'S
MORE THAN THAT.
MAYBE THIS IS
THE REAL, NICER
ZEITGEIST.

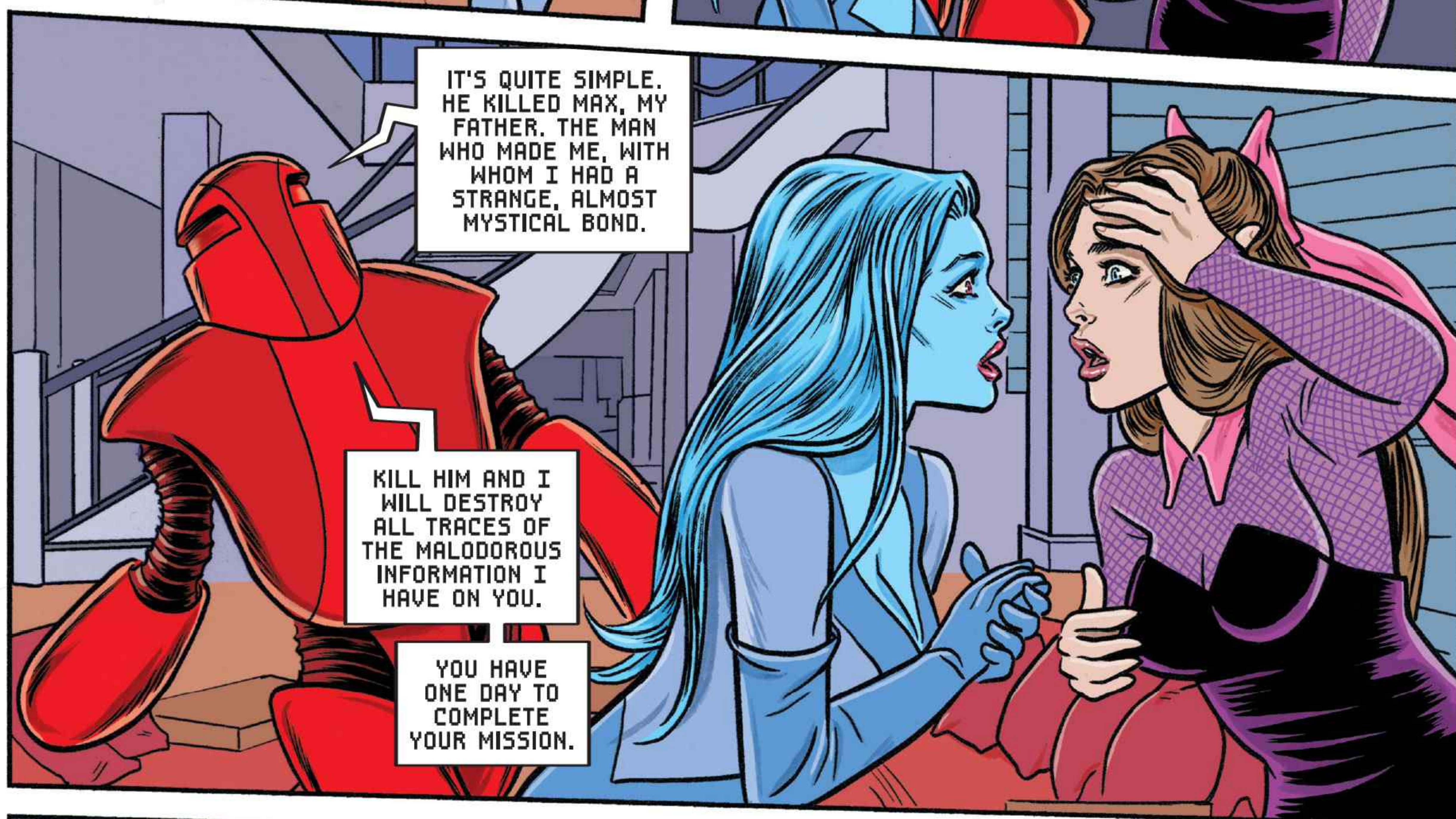
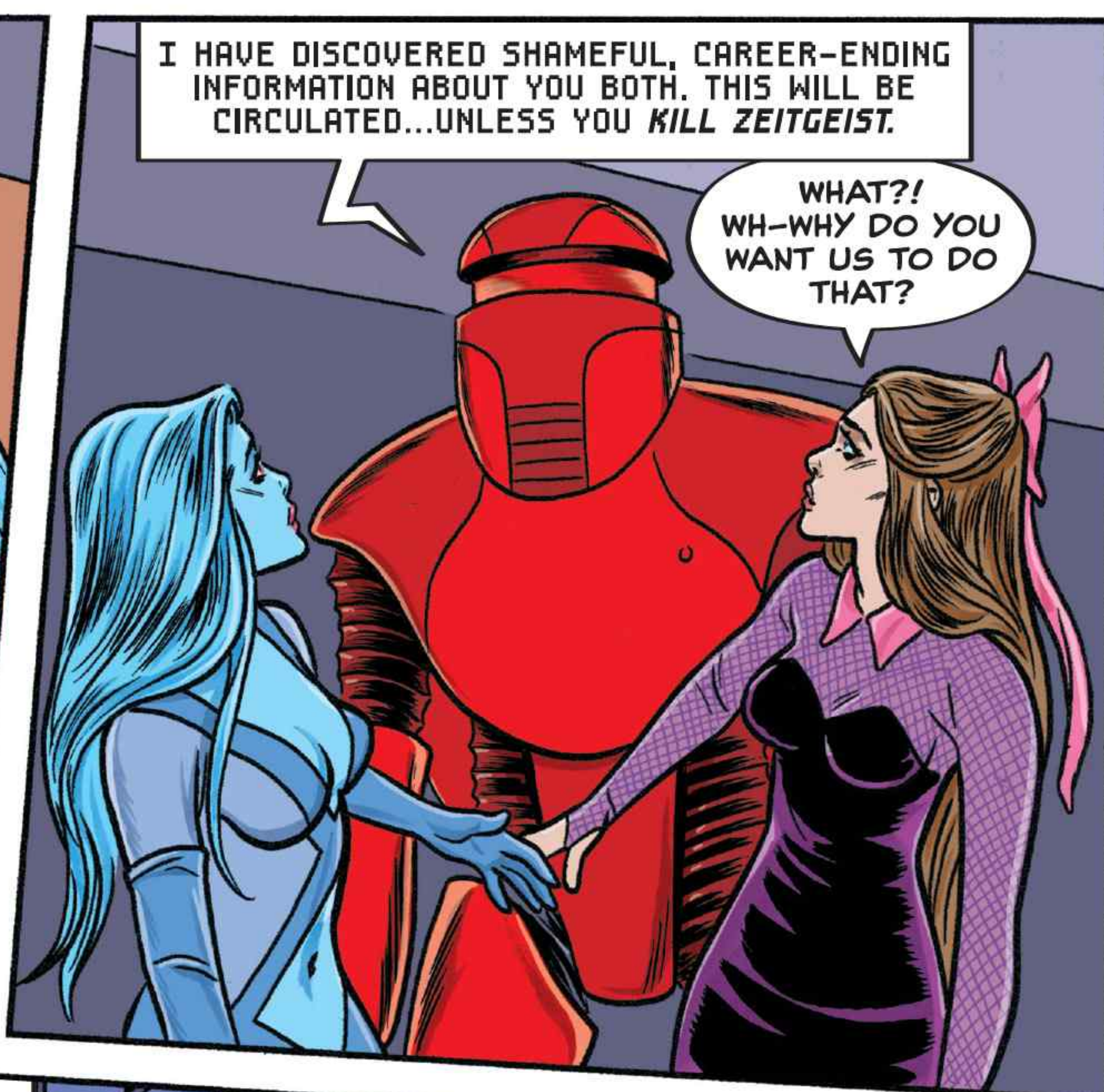
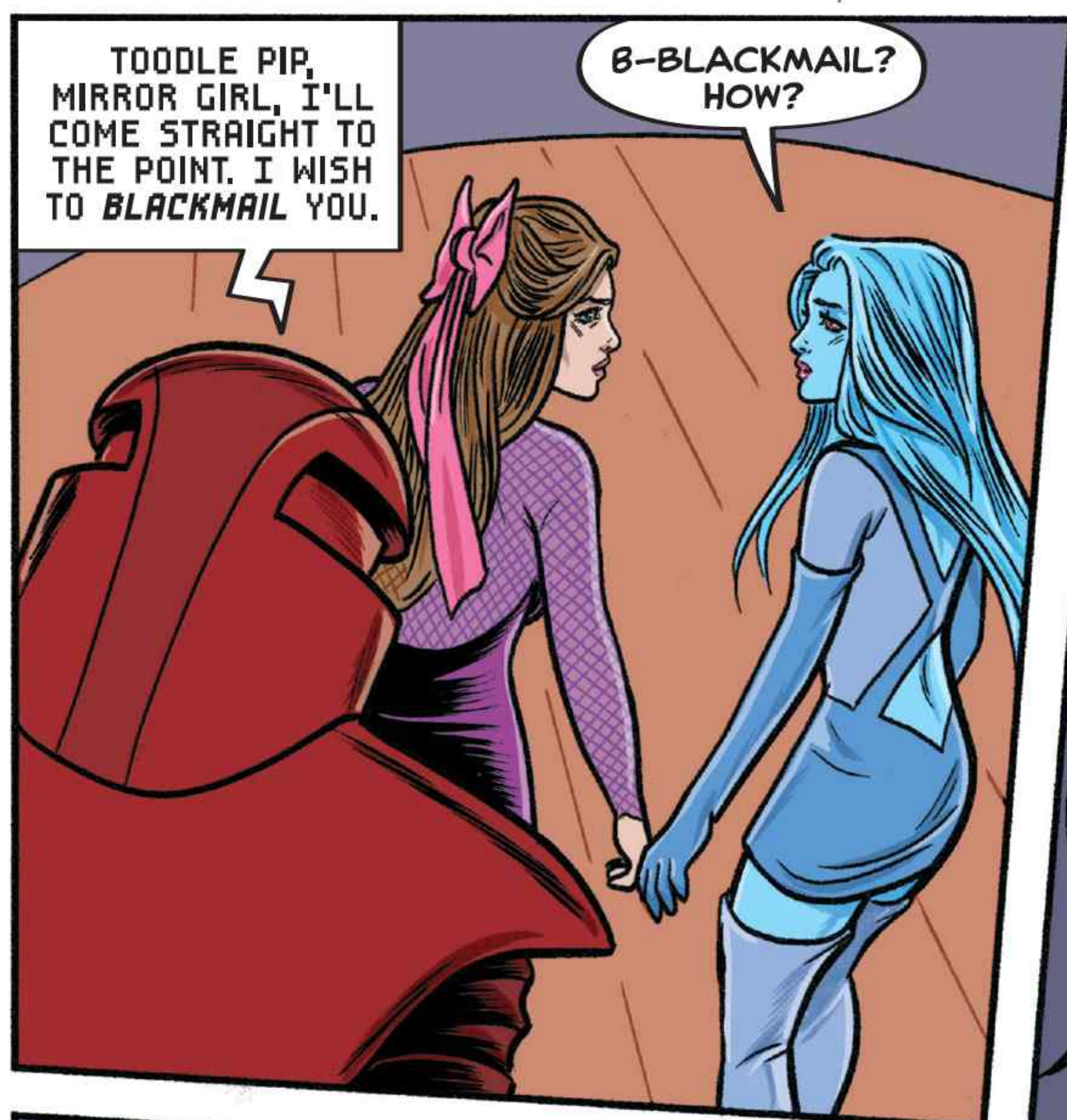
ALL IT
TAKES IS FOR HIM
NOT TO BE A **TOTAL**
RAT TO YOU...AND YOU GO
THINKING HE'S **MISTER**
WONDERFUL.



SHHH.
THAT THING
IS COMING.

GIVES
ME THE
CREEPS.

UTTERLY.



NEXT

The public is going gaga for the X-Statix! But do their methods of reaching stardom justify the ends? And can Zeitgeist make his way back into the mainstream--or is he totally washed up?



